



# BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
**MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER**  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

**NAME:** Neil A. Armstrong (Mr.)  
NASA Astronaut

**BIRTHPLACE AND DATE:** Born in Wapakoneta, Ohio, on August 5, 1930;  
he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Armstrong of Wapakoneta.

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** Blond hair; blue eyes; height: 5 feet 11 inches;  
weight: 165 pounds.

**EDUCATION:** Attended secondary school in Wapakoneta, Ohio; received a  
Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering from  
Purdue University in 1955. Graduate School - University of Southern  
California.

**MARITAL STATUS:** Married to the former Janet Shearon of Evanston,  
Illinois, who is the daughter of Mrs. Louise Shearon of Pasadena,  
California.

**CHILDREN:** Eric, [REDACTED]; Mark, [REDACTED]

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** His hobbies include soaring (for which he is an FAI  
gold badge holder).

**ORGANIZATIONS:** Charter member of the Society of Experimental Test  
Pilots; associate fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics  
and Astronautics; and member of the Soaring Society of America.

**SPECIAL HONORS:** Recipient of the 1962 Institute of Aerospace Sciences  
Octave Chanute Award; the 1966 AIAA Astronautics Award; the  
NASA Exceptional Service Medal; and the 1962 John J. Montgomery  
Award.

**EXPERIENCE:** Armstrong was a naval aviator from 1949 to 1952 and flew  
78 combat missions during the Korean action.

He joined NASA's Lewis Research Center in 1955 (then NACA  
Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory) and later transferred to  
the NASA High Speed Flight Station (now Flight Research Center)  
at Edwards Air Force Base, California, as an aeronautical re-  
search pilot for NACA and NASA. In this capacity, he performed

as an X-15 project pilot, flying that aircraft to over 200,000 feet and approximately 4,000 miles per hour.

Other flight test work included piloting the X-1 rocket airplane, the F-100, F-101, F-102, F-104, F5d, B-47, and the paraglider, and others.

As pilot of the B-29 "drop" aircraft, he participated in the launches of over 100 rocket airplane flights.

He has logged more than 3,290 hours flying time, including 2,500 hours in jet aircraft.

**CURRENT ASSIGNMENT:** Mr. Armstrong was selected as an astronaut by NASA in September 1962. He served as backup command pilot for the Gemini 5 flight.

As command pilot for the Gemini 8 mission, which was launched on March 16, 1966, he performed the first successful docking of two vehicles in space. The flight, originally scheduled to last three days, was terminated early due to a malfunctioning OAMS thruster; but the crew demonstrated great piloting skill in overcoming this problem and bringing the spacecraft to a safe landing.

He subsequently served as backup command pilot for the Gemini 11 mission.

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OCTOBER 1966